

VOL. 4 NO. 11

FEBRUARY, 1945

Shadow

COMICS

10¢



THE SHADOW UNCOVERS

The SEVEN SINNERS

AND PROVES THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY

Lovely DALE EVANS Says:

"IT'S EASY TO LEARN DANCING!"



DALE EVANS, Republic star of "Yellow Rose of Texas"

Dale is Right

...and This Book will Teach You in 5 Days...or NO COST!

IF YOU CAN DO THIS STEP—YOU CAN DANCE IN 5 DAYS



Illustration shows first basic step. This is an example of how the exciting book "Dancing" can quickly teach you to be a smooth, graceful dancer. Chock full of easy-to-follow diagrams like this—with simple, understandable text, this book is destined to be one of your most prized possessions.

★ ★ ★

LEARN NEWEST DANCE STEPS, INCLUDING RHUMBA, SAMBA, CONGA, JITTERBUG, FOXTROT and WALTZ!

Take a tip from Dale Evans, talented young dancing star of Republic Pictures. Let dancing open the door to Romance and Happiness for you! Don't let others have all the fun while life passes you by. Be popular... have dates every night instead of sitting alone feeling sorry for yourself!

EASY-TO-FOLLOW LESSONS!

This sensational new book can teach you to dance, help you to learn the latest steps, quickly, easily, in the privacy of your own home! Not a correspondence course—not a series of expensive and complicated lessons, but a revolutionary book on Dancing that offers a short-cut to anyone who wants to learn to dance the modern way! Written by Betty Lee, one of America's foremost

dancing authorities, it will teach you the fundamentals of dancing in a few thrilling hours—give you the grace and assurance of an accomplished dancer in as little as 5 days.

MAKE THIS TEST!

Don't let another day go by without sending for this amazing book that has already taught thousands of men and women to dance. It's packed full of easy-to-understand diagrams and explains in clear, simple language, how to do the Jitterbug, Rhumba, Conga, Samba and other exciting new dances that are sweeping the country, besides the ever-popular Waltz, Fox Trot, and many old-time favorites. Surprise your friends by knowing how to do all the latest steps. Resolve now, never again to refuse an invitation because you can't dance. If you really want to know how to dance and will act now, we'll send you as a gift, 2 additional books Free of any extra charge, "Tip Top Tapping" and "Swing Steps." Simply send the coupon for your copy of "Dancing," by Betty Lee. Pay postman when *All Three Books* are delivered. Then follow instructions by practicing the simple easy lessons each day. And remember—if not satisfied with results in 5 days you may return the book and your money will be refunded.

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1750 Broadway, Dept. 8310H, New York 19, N.Y.

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I enclose \$1.98. Ship postage prepaid. If in 5 days I do not learn to dance, I may return the book and you will refund purchase price.

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Let us send you this Gift, included FREE of any extra charge—2 additional Books—"Tip Top Tapping" and "Swing Steps." Learn extra dance steps! Mail the Coupon today!

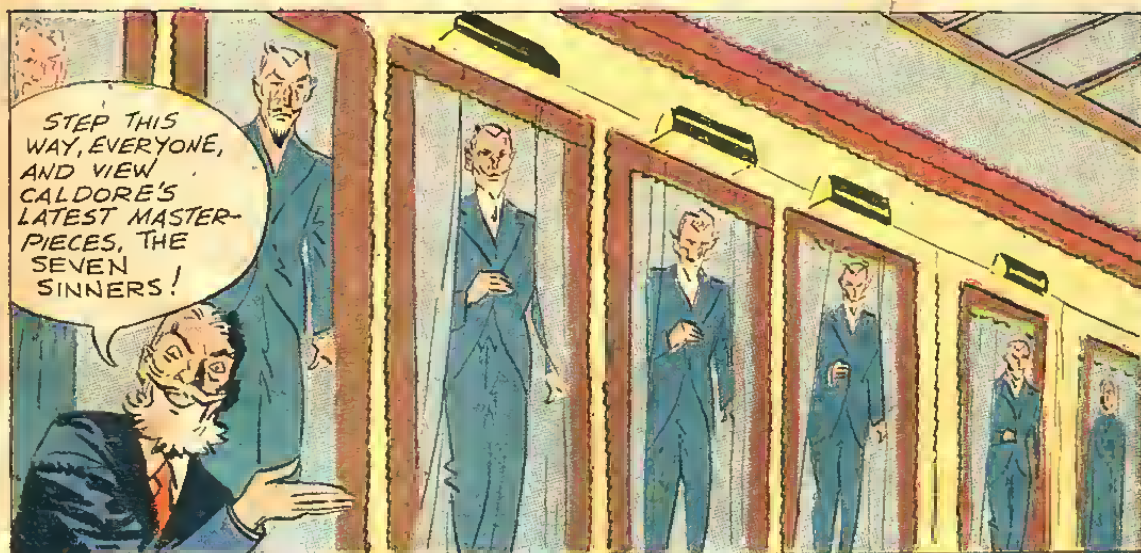
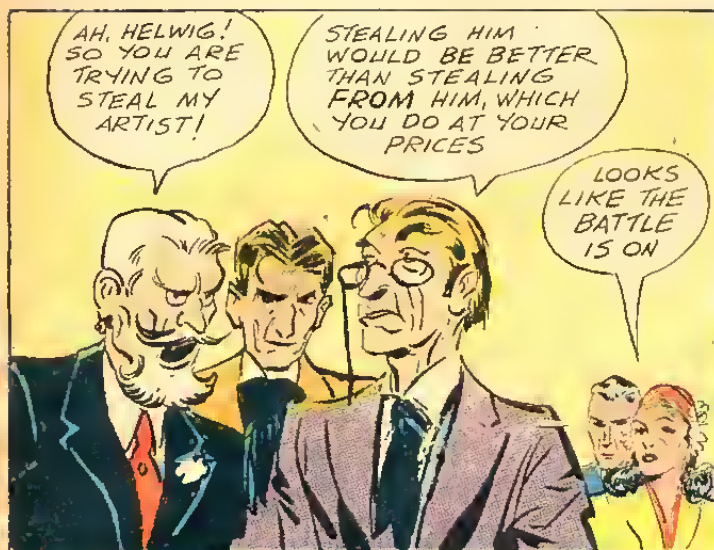
The Shadow Meets- The Seven Sinners

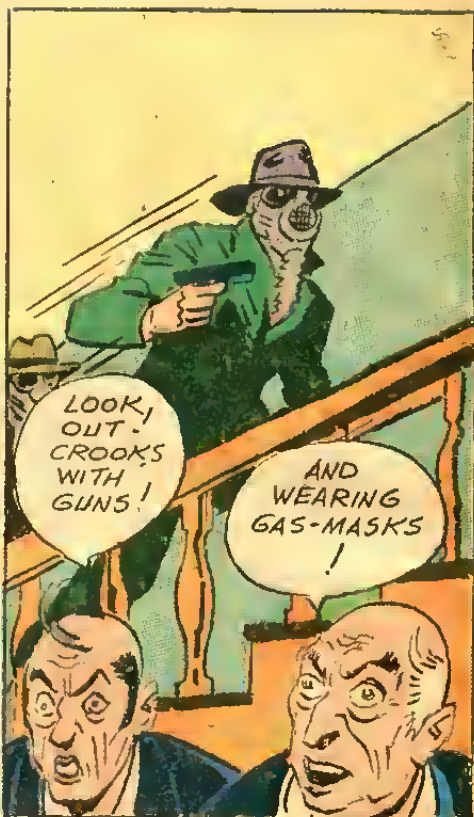
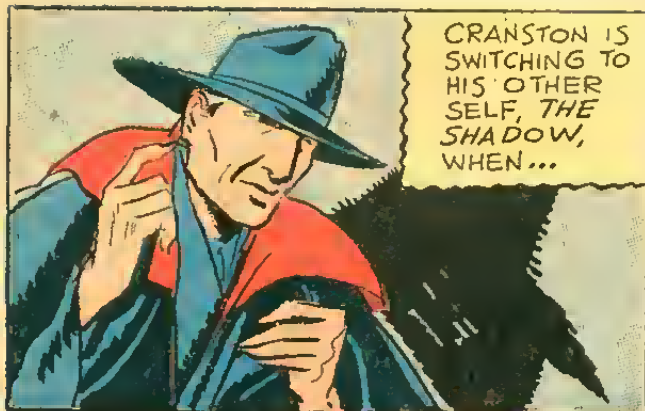


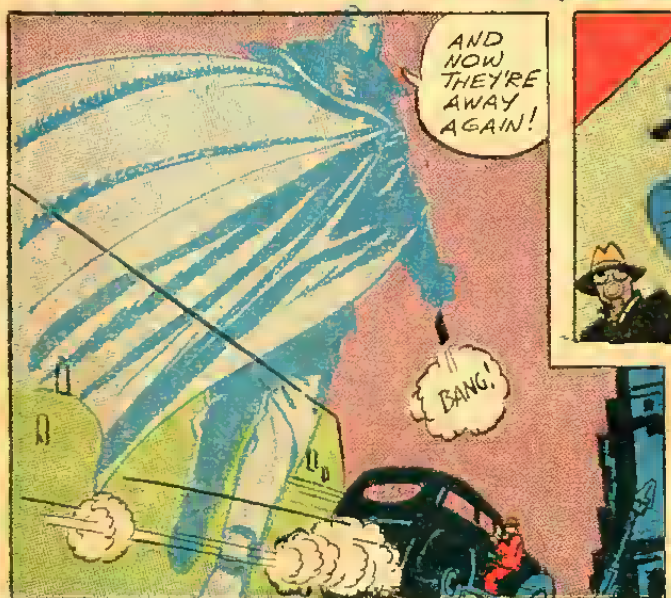
WHERE ARE
WE GOING
NOW, LAMONT?

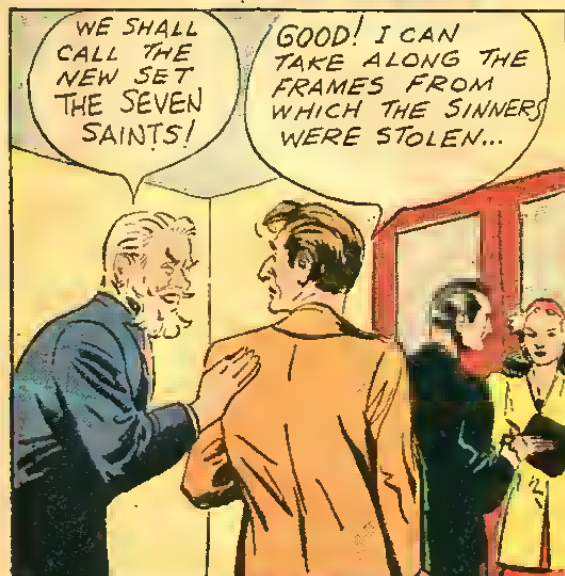
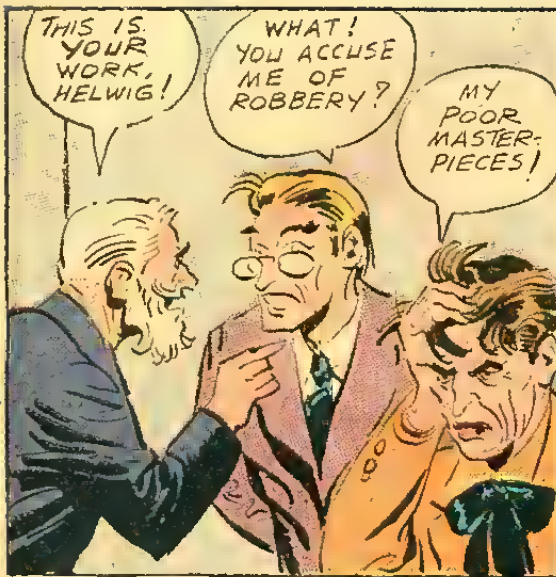
OVER TO SEE
RUFUS DANE.
HE HAS JUST
BOUGHT SOME
NEW PAINTINGS
THAT HE HAS ON
EXHIBIT

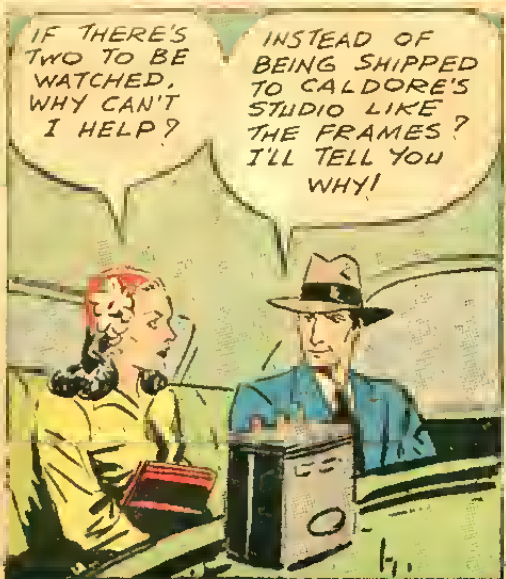
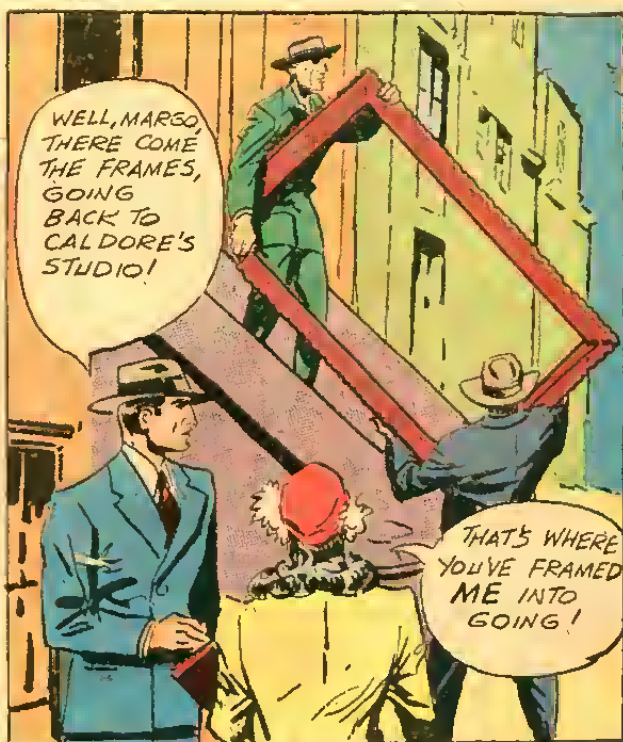




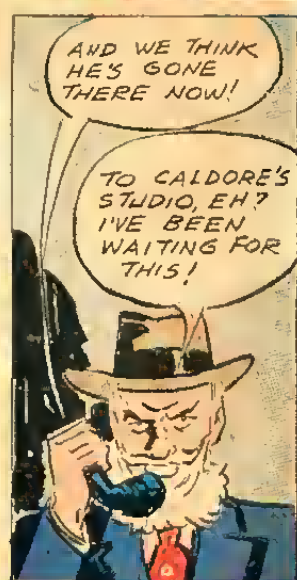
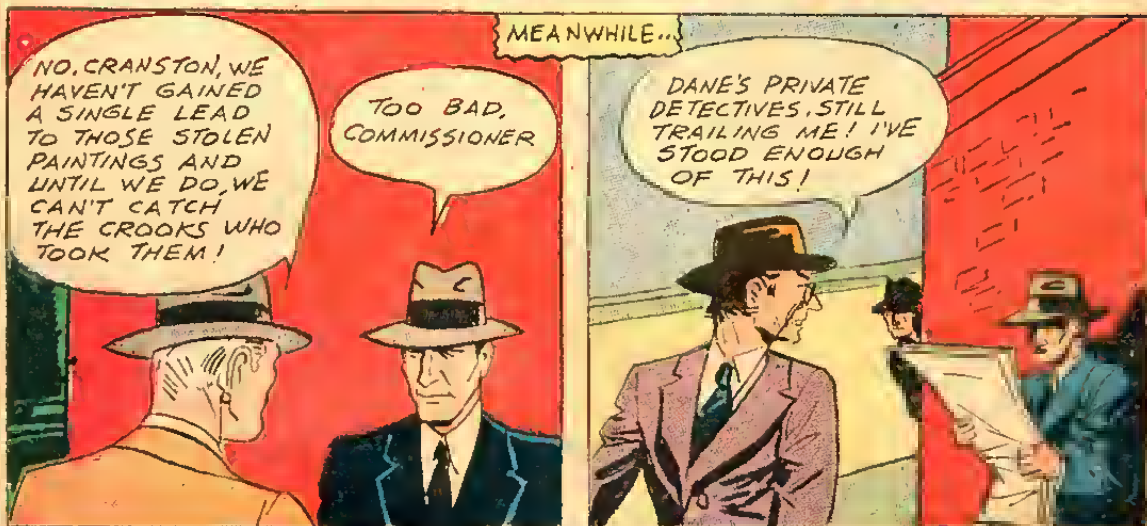
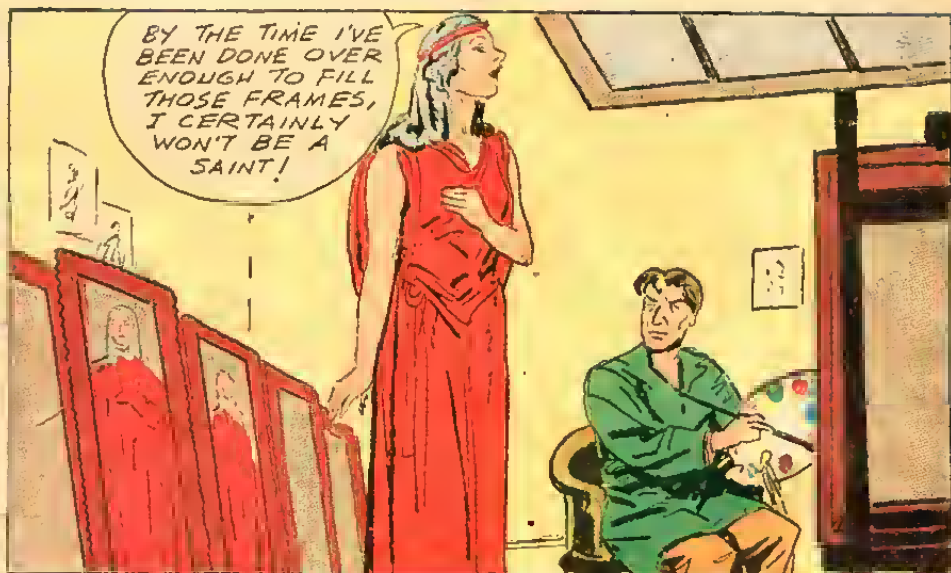








AND SO, TIME MARCHES ON WHILE MARGO LANE UNDERTAKES THE THANKLESS TASK OF SITTING FOR SEVEN PORTRAITS..



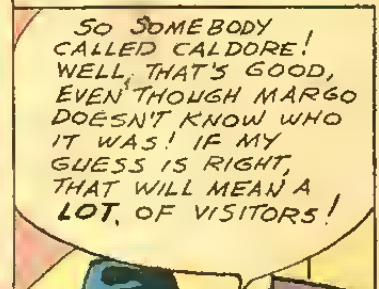


I'M GOING OUT FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES, MISS LANE, SO YOU CAN REST IN THE MEAN TIME

THANKS



NOW'S MY CHANCE TO CALL LAMONT AND TELL HIM ABOUT THE PHONE CALL THAT CALDORE ANSWERED!



SO SOMEBODY CALLED CALDORE! WELL, THAT'S GOOD, EVEN THOUGH MARGO DOESN'T KNOW WHO IT WAS! IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, THAT WILL MEAN A LOT OF VISITORS!

THE SHADOW IS RIGHT!!! IN THE ALLEYS SURROUNDING CALDORE'S STUDIO A STRANGELY MASKED CROWD BEGINS TO GATHER, UNTIL...



THE SHADOW!

GET HIM!

WHEREVER HE IS!

SOCK



THE MORE THE BETTER... SOMETIMES!

BAM

MEANWHILE, CALDORE HAS RETURNED TO HIS STUDIO AND MARGO HAS RESUMED HER TIREDSOME POSE...

IF THOSE SOUNDS ANNOY YOU, I'LL CLOSE THE WINDOW, MISS LANE

NEVER MIND, IT SEEMS TO BE ALL OVER

HELWIG! I WAS RIGHT IN THINKING YOU'D COME HERE!

SHWHAM!
SOCK!
BOP!

AND WHAT BUSINESS OF YOURS IS IT IF I DO?

BECAUSE YOU'RE HERE TO OUTBID ME ON THE SEVEN SAINTS!

AND WHY NOT? CALDORE HAS A RIGHT TO ASK A FAIR PRICE, HASN'T HE?

GENTLEMEN... GENTLEMEN!

TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND!

TWENTY-SEVEN FIVE!

SINCE YOU STOLE THE SINNERS YOU CAN AFFORD TO PAY HIGH FOR THE SAINTS!

YOU'RE RIGHT I CAN... AND I HAVE THE MONEY WITH ME!

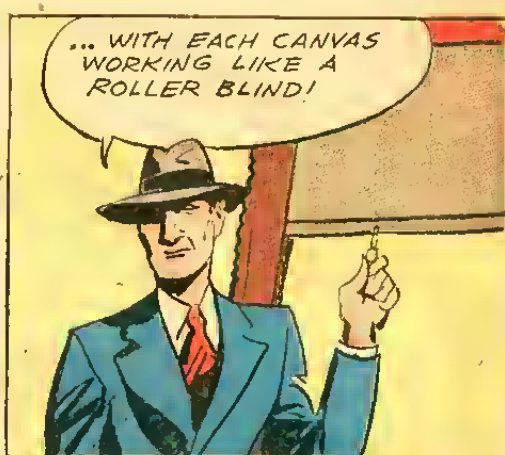
KEEP RIGHT ON GOING, GENTLEMEN!

APPARENTLY SAINTS COME HIGHER THAN SINNERS!









DISASTER IN THE CASTLE ON THE CLIFF

LIKE A DEATH'S-HEAD, THE ISOLATED CASTLE LURED UNWARY WAYFARERS TO DOOM.

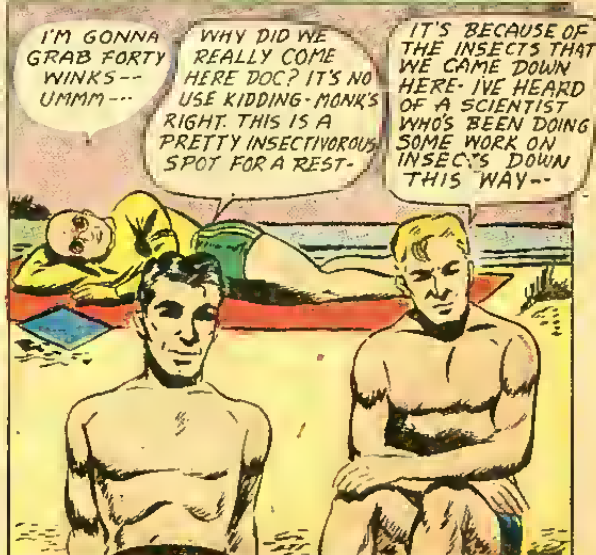
INTO THIS SINISTER CITADEL COMES THE SHADOW, BOUND ON A RESCUE TASK THAT THREATENED HIS LIFE.

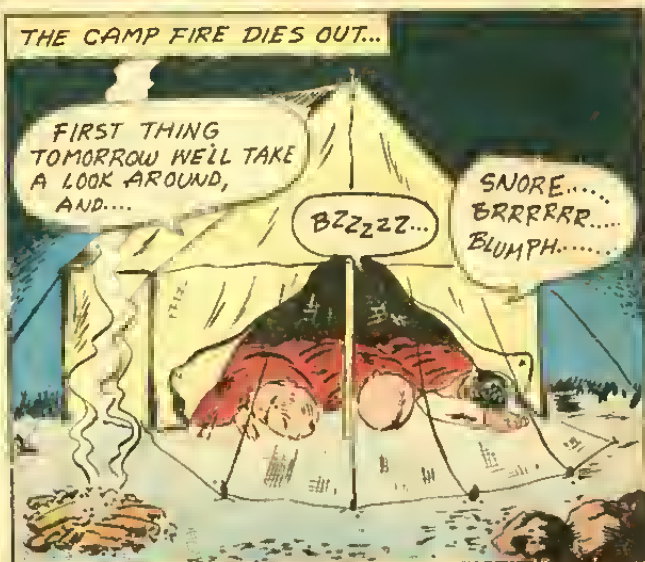
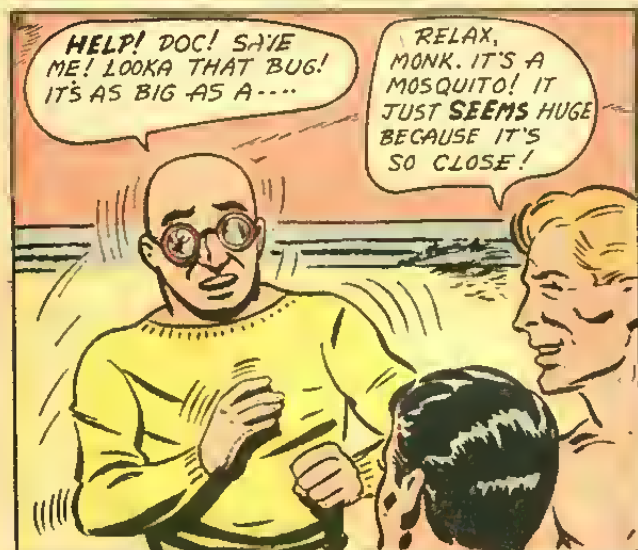
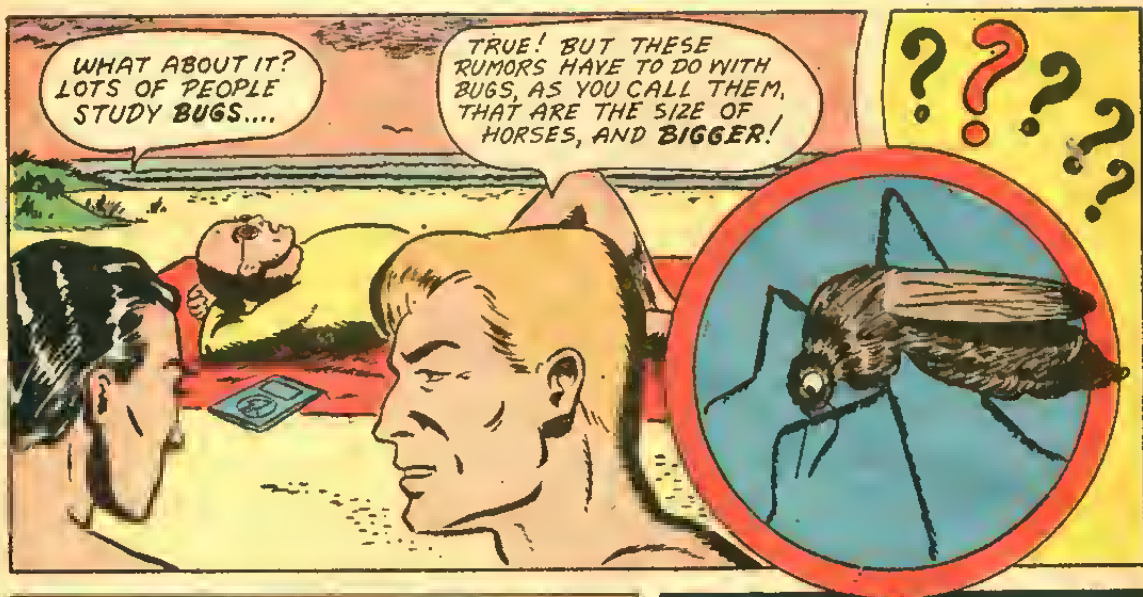
Don't miss
CASTLE OF DEATH
in March
SHADOW COMICS

ON SALE JANUARY 26

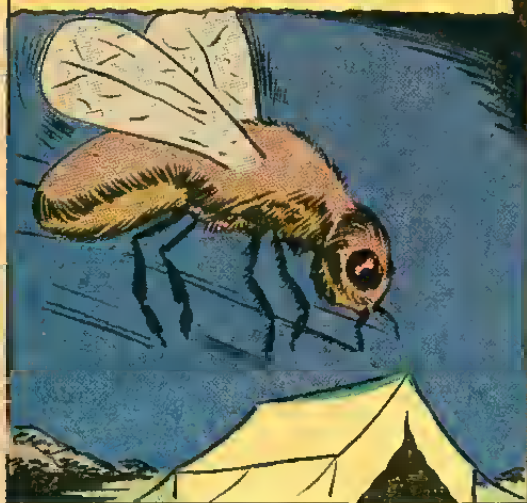


A WELL EARNED VACATION...



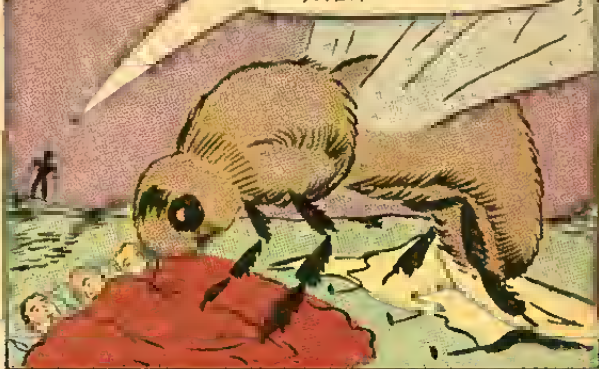


SILENTLY, AN IMPOSSIBLE SHAPE
SWOOPS DOWN TOWARD THE TENT....



A LURKING FIGURE CHUCKLES...

BIG OR LITTLE, A HORNET
BEHAVES THE SAME WAY--
FIRST, IT USES ITS STINGER
TO DOPE THE PREY---
THEN.....

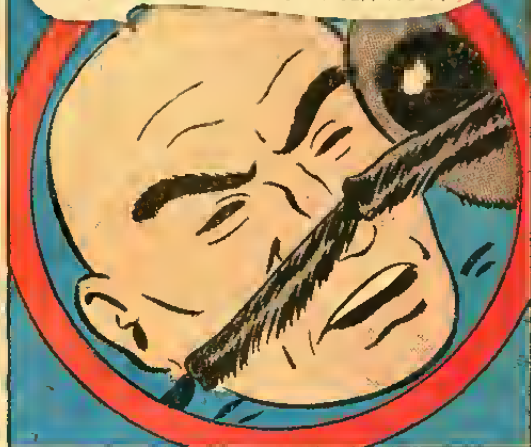


TOUCHED BY THE FLUTTERING WING OF
THE GIGANTIC HORNET, MONK AWAKENS...

WHAT THE! NO! IT CAN'T BE!
I MUST BE HAVING A NIGHTMARE! I
BETTER TRY TO DREAM O' SOMETHIN' ELSE!



I NEVER HAD A DREAM THIS REAL
BEFORE! BUT I'M NOT GONNA LET
DOC AND HAM LAUGH AT ME AGAIN
LIKE THEY DID THIS AFTERNOON!

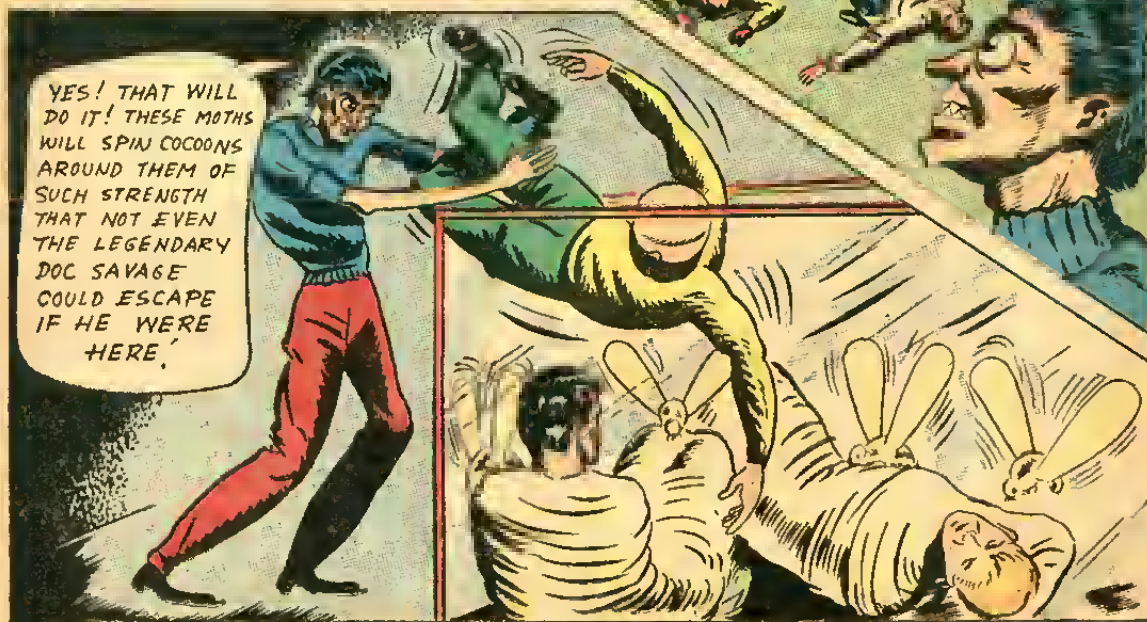


HEH! GOOD! NOW, MY GREEDY
ONE, CARRY THEM TO YOUR HOME.
I'D BETTER GET THERE FIRST IF
I'M TO SAVE ANY OF THAT FOOD FOR
MY OTHER DESERVING ONES!!



ONCE THE
HORNET INSERTS
ITS EGGS INTO THEM,
MY OTHER BEAUTIES
WAN'T WANT THEM!
I MUST GET
THERE FIRST!!







AS DOC THINKS DESPERATELY-HE
FEELS SUDDEN LOOSENESS IN HIS BONDS!

THE COCOON IS COMING FREE!
I GET IT! THE FORMIC ACID
IN THE WEB IS DISSOLVING
THE COCOON!

THIS SHOULD
MAKE A CHARMING
PICTURE! A MAN
FIGHTING FOR HIS
LIFE AGAINST A
TARANTULA! HEE HEE!

I'D BETTER
STALL FOR
TIME

WHAT
IS
YOUR
CONTENTION
??

THIS WILL
PROVE MY
CONTENTION-
THE REASON
I WENT TO
THE TROUBLE
OF BREEDING
MY GIANT
PETS!

A VERY REASONABLE
ONE! THAT MAN'S NOT
AS GOOD AS THE INSECTS
BY GOOD, I MEAN STRONG,
WORTHY TO LIVE! SINCE
THE INSECTS ARE
STRONGER, THE
WORLD SHOULD BE
THEIRS!

THAT'S VERY
INTERESTING
(GULP!)

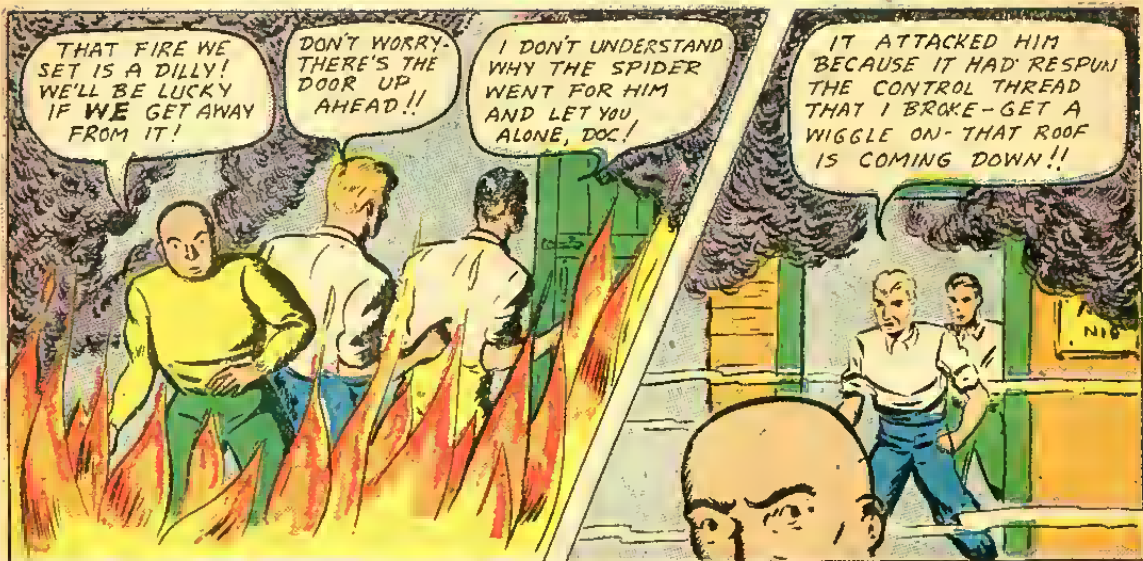
BAH! WHY SHOULD
I BOTHER TO TELL
YOU THIS- YOU'RE
BUT A MAN! GO
TO YOUR BETTER!

DOC! YOU'D
BETTER GET HERE
QUICK! ONE BITE
FROM THAT AND I'M
A GONER!

OOOOOH! WHAT!

DOC! LOOK OUT! THE
HORNET HAS COME TO!
IT'S COMING FOR YOU!



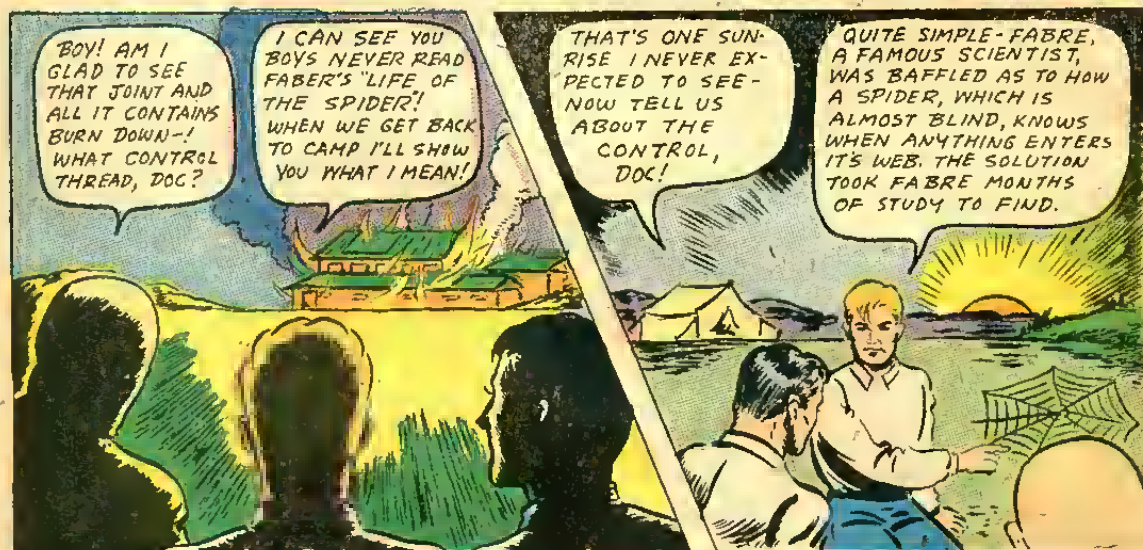


THAT FIRE WE SET IS A DILLY! WE'LL BE LUCKY IF WE GET AWAY FROM IT!

DON'T WORRY. THERE'S THE DOOR UP AHEAD!!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE SPIDER WENT FOR HIM AND LET YOU ALONE, DOC!

IT ATTACKED HIM BECAUSE IT HAD RESPUN THE CONTROL THREAD THAT I BROKE-GET A WIGGLE ON- THAT ROOF IS COMING DOWN!!

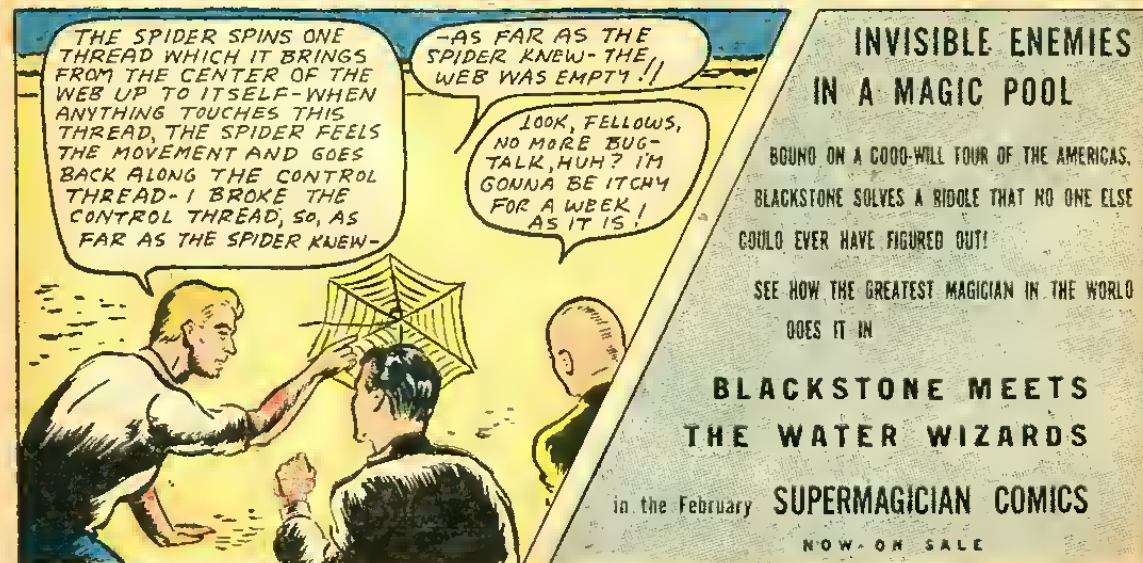


BOY! AM I GLAD TO SEE THAT JOINT AND ALL IT CONTAINS BURN DOWN-! WHAT CONTROL THREAD, DOC?

I CAN SEE YOU BOYS NEVER READ FABER'S 'LIFE OF THE SPIDER'! WHEN WE GET BACK TO CAMP I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I MEAN!

THAT'S ONE SUN-RISE I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE-NOW TELL US ABOUT THE CONTROL, DOC!

QUITE SIMPLE-FABRE, A FAMOUS SCIENTIST, WAS BAFFLED AS TO HOW A SPIDER, WHICH IS ALMOST BLIND, KNOWS WHEN ANYTHING ENTERS ITS WEB. THE SOLUTION TOOK FABRE MONTHS OF STUDY TO FIND.



THE SPIDER SPINS ONE THREAD WHICH IT BRINGS FROM THE CENTER OF THE WEB UP TO ITSELF-WHEN ANYTHING TOUCHES THIS THREAD, THE SPIDER FEELS THE MOVEMENT AND GOES BACK ALONG THE CONTROL THREAD-I BROKE THE CONTROL THREAD, SO, AS FAR AS THE SPIDER KNEW-

-AS FAR AS THE SPIDER KNEW- THE WEB WAS EMPTY!!

LOOK, FELLOWS, NO MORE BUG-TALK, HUH? I'M GONNA BE ITCHY FOR A WEEK! AS IT IS!

INVISIBLE ENEMIES IN A MAGIC POOL

BOUND ON A GOOD-WILL TOUR OF THE AMERICAS, BLACKSTONE SOLVES A RIDDLE THAT NO ONE ELSE COULD EVER HAVE FIGURED OUT!

SEE HOW THE GREATEST MAGICIAN IN THE WORLD DOES IT IN

BLACKSTONE MEETS THE WATER WIZARDS

in the February **SUPERMAGICIAN COMICS**

NOW ON SALE

CHICK CARTER

IN
DEATH FLIES
HIGH!



JOHN
MEDITZ

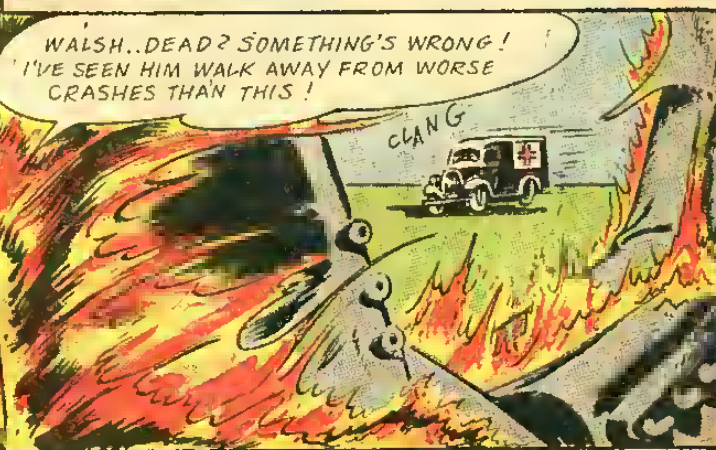
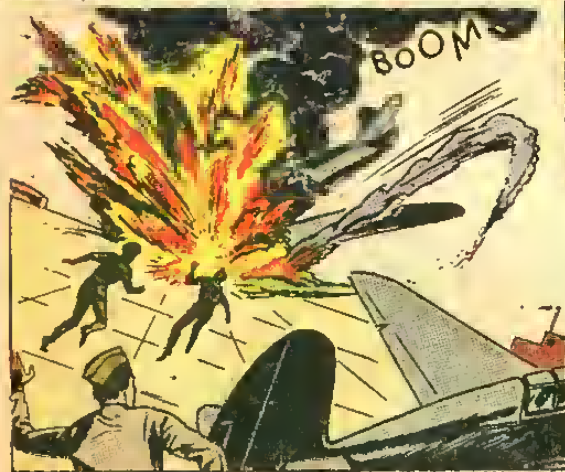
WHEN IS A SECRET WEAPON NOT A
SECRET WEAPON? MOST PEOPLE WOULD
SAY WHEN HERR GOEBBELS BLATS ABOUT
ONE BUT THIS NEW MENACE IS JAPAN-
ESE... OR IS IT? FOLLOW AIR CADET
CHICK CARTER AS HE ENCOUNTERS HIS
MOST BIZARRE CRIME PUZZLE YET....

AND THAT WAS HOW I TRAPPED THE
BEARDED SLAYER OF THE BALDHEADED
MEN. PARDON ME... THE PHONE...

BRRINNG



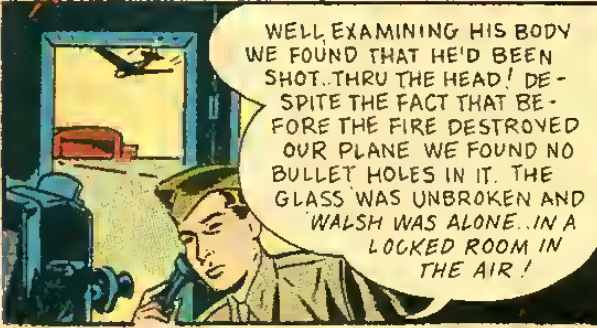
NICK CARTER AT AN INNER CIRCLE MEETING....



TAKE IT EASY, REVERSE THE CHARGES AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT!



WELL, EXAMINING HIS BODY WE FOUND THAT HE'D BEEN SHOT THRU THE HEAD! DESPITE THE FACT THAT BEFORE THE FIRE DESTROYED OUR PLANE WE FOUND NO BULLET HOLES IN IT. THE GLASS WAS UNBROKEN AND WALSH WAS ALONE IN A LOCKED ROOM IN THE AIR!



THIS IS ALL VERY DISTRESSING BUT YOU WILL NEED MY INFORMATION. I KNEW THAT LIEUT. WALSH WOULD NOT RETURN FROM HIS FLIGHT TODAY!

WHAT?

MY NAME IS CABLE, I OWN A DEFENSE PLANT LAST WEEK.



CABLE'S STORY

WHO... WHAT... WHY YOU'RE JAPS!

STEP IN!



WE KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE! THEREFORE YOU ARE GOING TO SEE A DEMONSTRATION OF JAPAN'S NEW SECRET WEAPON. THEN YOU CAN TELL YOUR COUNTRY THAT THEY MAY AS WELL GIVE UP!

WHO I REALLY AM? I'M JUNIUS CABLE! I'M NO ONE IMPORTANT!

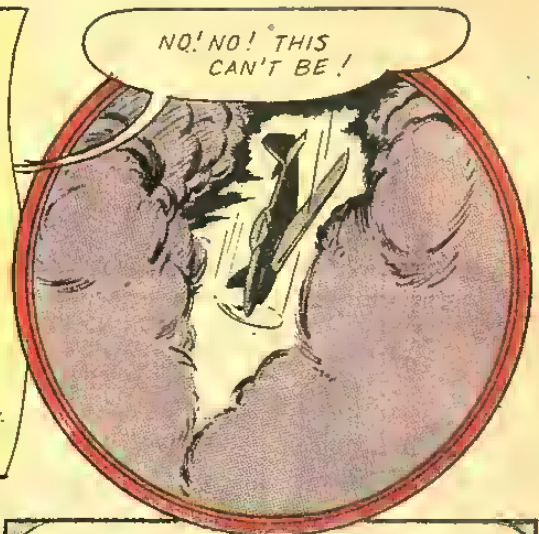
SEE THAT PLANE? NOT FAR OFF OUR WEAPON IS TRAINED ON IT! WATCH AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO IT FOR THIS WILL HAPPEN TO ALL YOUR PLANES IN THE FUTURE!

THAT PLANE'S PRETTY FAR UP! NOTHING CAN TOUCH IT!

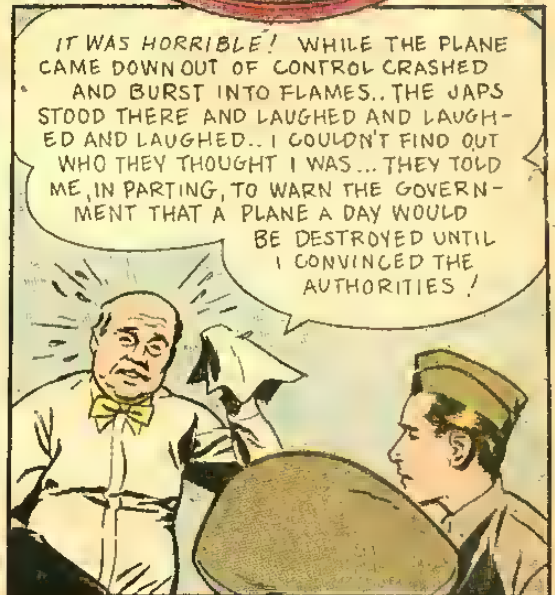
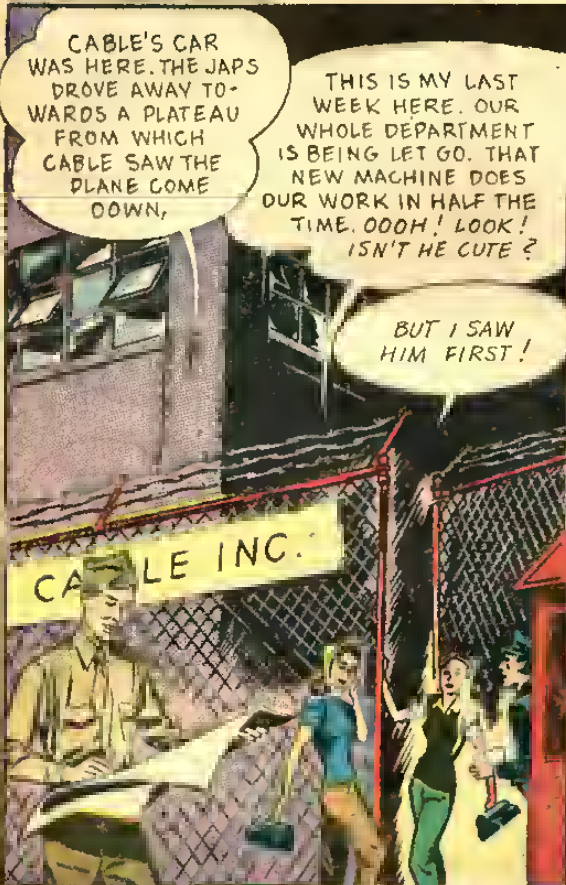




CABLE
SEES



IT TOOK A LOT OF PERSUASION BEFORE
CHICK GOT A 24 HOUR PASS. HE WENT TO...





GULP NO, NOT YET, I'M JUST A CADET BUT WHEN I FINISH MY COURSE I WILL BE!

GEE, ARE YOU A PILOT?

WOULD'JA LET ME HAVE YOUR AUTO-GRAPH? THEN WHEN YOU DO BECOME A PILOT AND GET FAMOUS I'LL MAKE ALL THE GIRLS JEALOUS!



ISN'T HE THE SMOOTHEST THING YOU EVER SAW!

OH BROTHER.. NOW LET'S SEE... CABLE SAID THEY DROVE FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES SO.....



THIS TIME WE HAVE A WITNESS. THAT'S CAPTAIN MARTIN IN THE OTHER PLANE THEY WERE TOGETHER!

THERE YOU SEE! THEY'VE GOT- TEN ANOTHER PLANE!

THE PLATEAU WASN'T TOO HARD TO FIND....

M E A N W H I L E



THIS IS FUNNY... I WONDER...

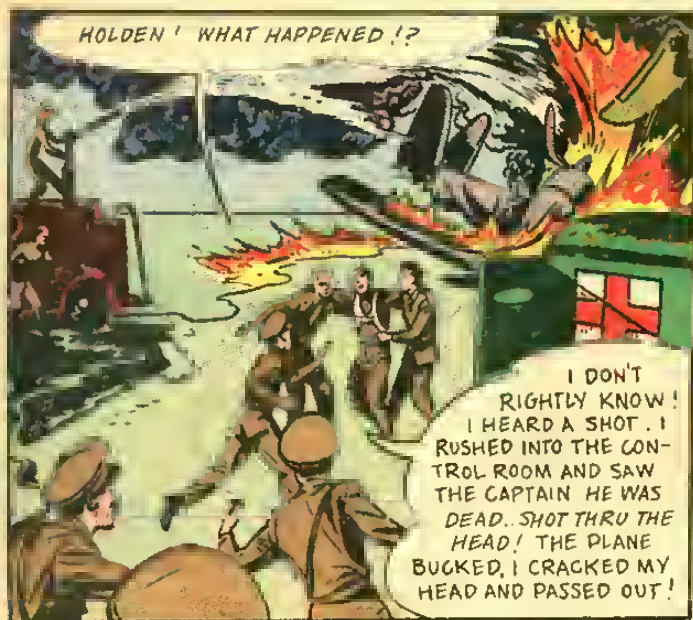


YES MARTIN- WHAT DID...?

IT'S NO USE! HE'S DEAD! I HOPE CAPTAIN MARTIN SAW WHAT HAPPENED!

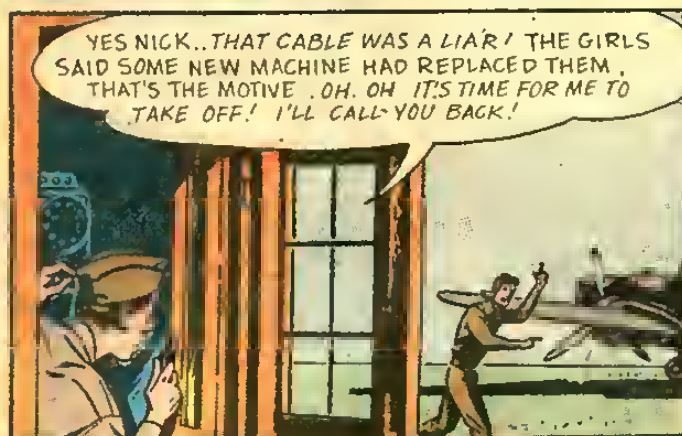
I... WAS TAILING HIM IN AT 12,000 FEET AND SUDDENLY FOR NO REASON THAT I COULD SEE, HE PEELED OFF AND WENT DOWN...!

WAIT.. HIS OB- SERVOR. WHERE IS HE?

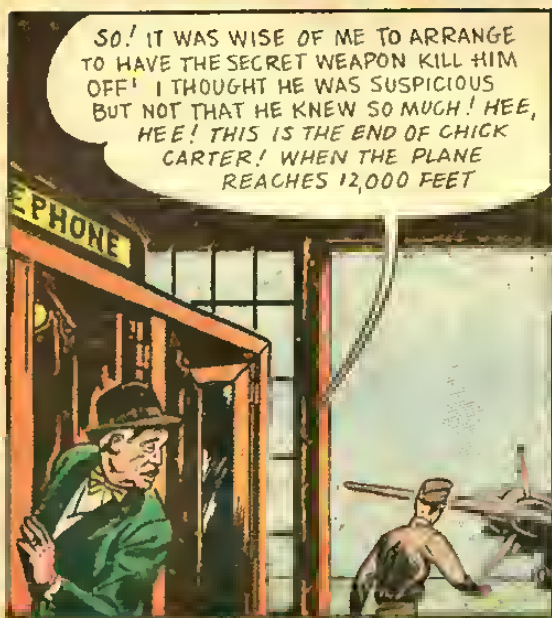


HOLDEN! WHAT HAPPENED!?

I DON'T
RIGHTLY KNOW!
I HEARD A SHOT. I
RUSHED INTO THE CON-
TROL ROOM AND SAW
THE CAPTAIN HE WAS
DEAD. SHOT THRU THE
HEAD! THE PLANE
BUCKED, I CRACKED MY
HEAD AND PASSED OUT!



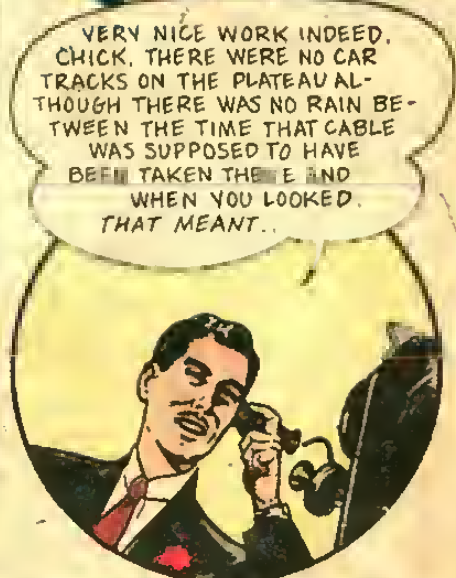
YES NICK..THAT CABLE WAS A LIAR! THE GIRLS
SAID SOME NEW MACHINE HAD REPLACED THEM,
THAT'S THE MOTIVE .OH. OH IT'S TIME FOR ME TO
TAKE OFF! I'LL CALL YOU BACK!



SO! IT WAS WISE OF ME TO ARRANGE
TO HAVE THE SECRET WEAPON KILL HIM
OFF! I THOUGHT HE WAS SUSPICIOUS
BUT NOT THAT HE KNEW SO MUCH! HEE,
HEE! THIS IS THE END OF CHICK
CARTER! WHEN THE PLANE
REACHES 12,000 FEET



THAT WAS THE SET UP
WHEN I GOT BACK FROM MY
INVESTIGATION. YOU SEE WHAT
WAS UP.. I KNEW WHAT THE
MOTIVE WAS. I KNEW WHO HAD
DONE IT BUT I COULDN'T
IMAGINE HOW!

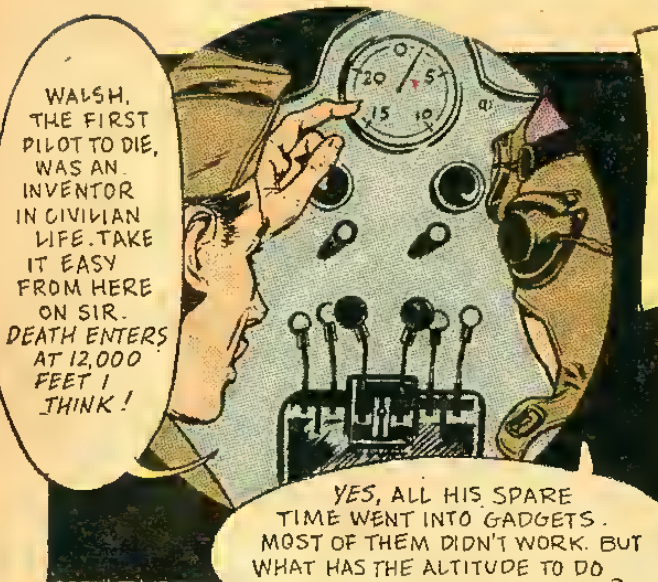


VERY NICE WORK INDEED,
CHICK. THERE WERE NO CAR
TRACKS ON THE PLATEAU AL-
THOUGH THERE WAS NO RAIN BE-
TWEEN THE TIME THAT CABLE
WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE
BEEN TAKEN THERE AND
WHEN YOU LOOKED
THAT MEANT..



YOU'LL BE READY
TO SOLO SOON NOW
WHAT'S THIS YOU
WANTED TO TELL
ME? AND WHY DID
WE HAVE TO BE
IN THE PLANE?

THERE ARE NO
JAPS CONCERNED IN
THESE MYSTERIOUS
PLANE CRASHES AND
KILLINGS. IT'S MURDER..
PURE AND UNSIMPLE
MURDER FOR
GAIN!



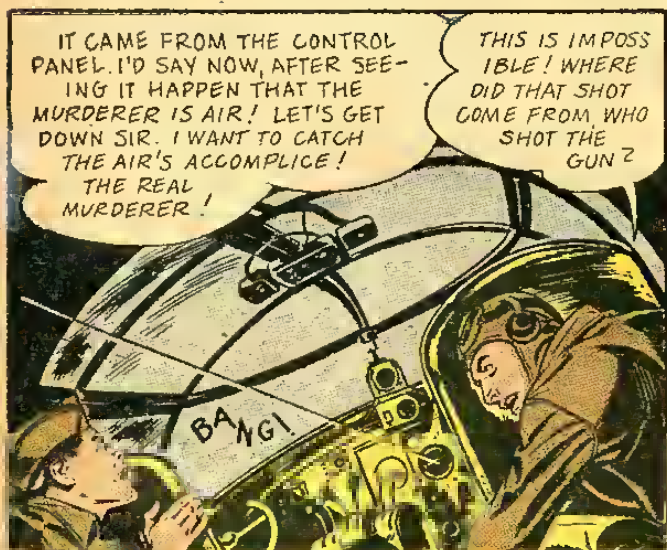
WALSH, THE FIRST PILOT TO DIE, WAS AN INVENTOR IN CIVILIAN LIFE. TAKE IT EASY FROM HERE ON SIR. DEATH ENTERS AT 12,000 FEET I THINK!

YES, ALL HIS SPARE TIME WENT INTO GADGETS. MOST OF THEM DIDN'T WORK. BUT WHAT HAS THE ALTITUDE TO DO WITH ALL THIS ABOUT DEATH?

DOWN BELOW

IF THIS ISN'T THE PERFECT ALIBI THERE NEVER WAS ONE!

I'VE HEARD FROM THE JAPS AGAIN! THEY SAID THAT PLANE WAS DOOMED! CAN YOU REACH IT IN TIME?



IT CAME FROM THE CONTROL PANEL. I'D SAY NOW, AFTER SEEING IT HAPPEN THAT THE MURDERER IS AIR! LET'S GET DOWN SIR. I WANT TO CATCH THE AIR'S ACCOMPLICE! THE REAL MURDERER!

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! WHERE DID THAT SHOT COME FROM WHO SHOT THE GUN?

BANG!

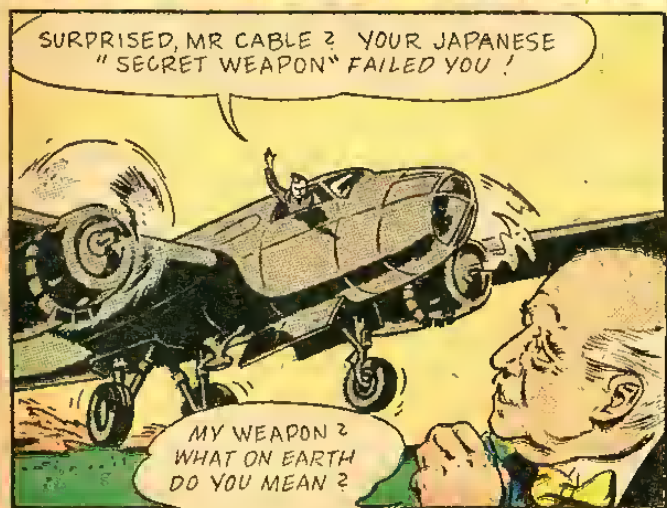


WE'LL RADIO THEM AND RECALL THEM!

11,999 FEET UP AND STILL RISING

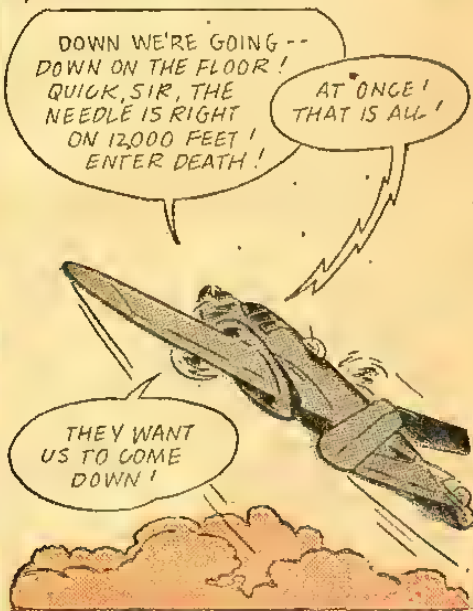
DOWN WE'RE GOING -- DOWN ON THE FLOOR! QUICK, SIR, THE NEEDLE IS RIGHT ON 12,000 FEET! ENTER DEATH!

AT ONCE! THAT IS ALL!



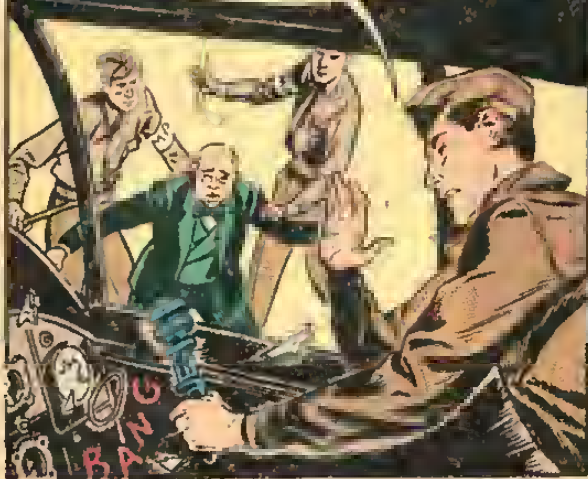
SURPRISED, MR CABLE? YOUR JAPANESE "SECRET WEAPON" FAILED YOU!

MY WEAPON? WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU MEAN?

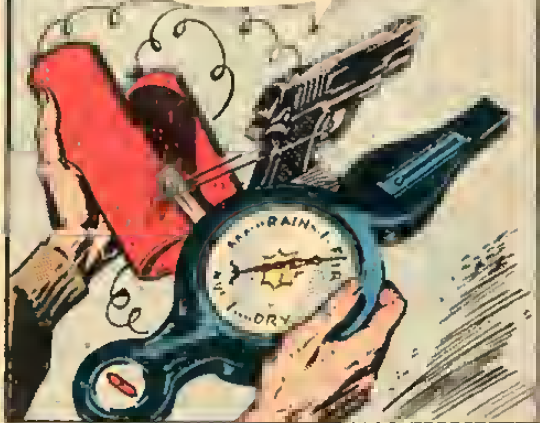


THEY WANT US TO COME DOWN!

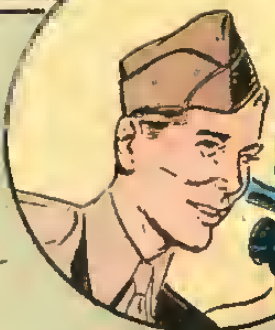
I DON'T MEAN ANYTHING
ON EARTH! AH, HERE IT IS! ONE
OF THE MOST VICIOUS MACHINES
I EVER HEARD OF!



WALSH CABLE'S FIRST VICTIM WAS THE
ONLY ONE HE REALLY WANTED TO KILL!
THE OTHER DEATHS WERE JUST COVER-
UPS! WALSH INVENTED A DEVICE, BROUGHT
IT TO CABLE WHO DECIDED IT WOULD BE
CHEAPER TO KILL WALSH THAN TO PAY
HIM! CABLE HAD THIS RIGGED UP AND
THEN GAVE US THAT FAIRY TALE ABOUT
THE JAPS! THAT'S ALL!



AS A
RESULT OF
WHAT THE
GENERAL CALLED MY STER-
LING DETECTIV-
IAL ACTIVITY
I'M GETTING A
FURLOUGH SO
I'LL SEE YOU
SOON!



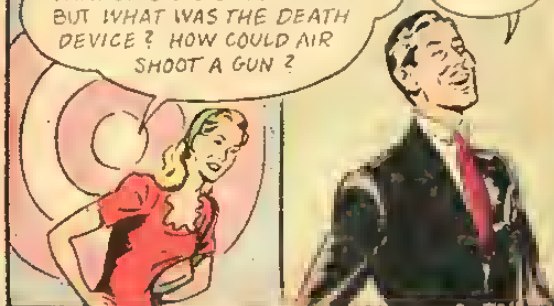
I'M REALLY
PROUD OF YOU
MY BOY. THAT WAS
A TRIUMPH OF
PURE REASON-
ING!



THE MEETING ENDS WITH CHICK'S EXPLOITS..

OH THAT! CABLE BRIED ONE OF THE ME-
CHANICS TO SET UP A BAROMETER IN THE
PLANES WHEN THE AIR PRESSURE HIT A
PREDETERMINED SPOT LIKE 12,000 FEET THE
BAROMETER ARROW MADE AN ELECTRICAL
CONTACT AND FIRED THE GUN!

I'M AS GLAD AS YOU
THAT CHICK IS COMING HOME
BUT WHAT WAS THE DEATH
DEVICE? HOW COULD AIR
SHOOT A GUN?



NICK CARTER sponsored by

ALL LIN-X PRDDUCTS

ACME WHITE LEAD AND COLOR CO.

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THE LISPING MAN!

The members of the Inner Circle had to shake the snow off their clothes as they entered the room which they used as a sort of lecture hall and meeting room. They were all waiting when Chick's famous foster father made his entrance. Nick Carter was taking over the Inner Circle while Chick was away in the Air Cadets. He flicked some snow off his immaculate black homburg hat and then scaled it across the room. It whirled through the air and settled perfectly in place on the hat rack.

"Hi, kids," smiled Nick as he got out of his overcoat. "It was a day exactly like this that I first ran into the Case of the Lisping Man."

Beef, never quiet for too long, said, "Oh that was a funny one. Chick told me a little about it."

Nick said, "Well it wasn't funny . . . ha ha. It was funny peculiar. You see, Legs Arnold was quite a character. If ever a man had every right to try and avoid me it was him. He was a crook. I knew it and he knew that I knew. Nevertheless one snowy day he came in to see me.

"He was shaking and not with cold. He said that he was afraid. Afraid for his life. To tell you the truth I laughed at him. For if ever a man had lived without respect for life it was he. The police blamed him for at least four unsolved gang killings

"His story was that a man was after him. He said that he was trailed day and night. The final thing that had driven him to me for protection was a threatening phone call he had received. He quoted the voice as saying, 'You are through! Tonight you die!'"

Nick smiled thoughtfully. "I questioned him thoroughly of course. He claimed that he didn't recognize the voice at all. I tried to get him to admit that the voice was a relative of one of his own victims. That the person was just trying to get vengeance. But Legs would have none of that. He said the voice was completely unknown. The only clue, he said, was the fact that the man who had threatened him had lisped. The main reason he was scared was the fact that the phone call was the first sign he had as to what was in the wind. He had figured that the person who was tailing him was a cop. That is until the phone call came through."

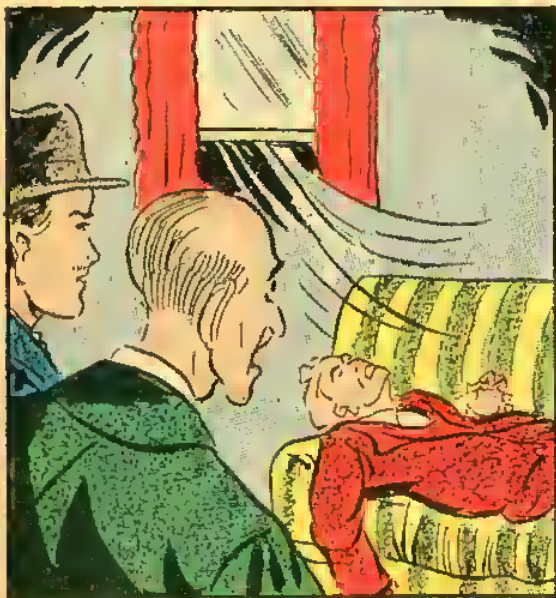


"I was more pleased than anything else," said Nick, "I had wondered for a long time how far Legs could go before he was taken care of and this seemed to be it. He was so frightened that he finally managed to talk me into going back to his apartment with

him. As I said before, it was a day like this and I wasn't too anxious to go out.

"When we got to his place and he opened the door I was rather glad I had come along, for, stretched out on a couch was a man. He was motionless. He wasn't sleeping. He was as dead as Hitler should be.

"Legs really went all to pieces when he saw the man. He let out a kind of scream and said, 'That's him! That's the man that was tailing me! Nick... the cops will try to frame this on me...' but I swear I had nothing to do with it!"



"He was right in a way. The cops didn't want to frame him, but they were awfully anxious to tag him with the kill!"

Nick paused, looked around the room and then went on, "Clancy, the head of Homicide took one look at the body and said, 'So you finally slipped, Legs!' The D.A. is going to be so happy!"

Sue said, "But Nick!"

"Hold it" said Nick. You've spotted it already, haven't you? Smart girl. I didn't at the time. I examined the body. It was the brother of one of the men that we all felt morally sure Legs had killed. The whole pattern seemed to indicate that Legs had killed the man and yet even Clancy looked thoughtful when I told him about Legs coming to me for protection.

"Clancy said we'd wait till the medical report came through as we had no way of gauging how long the man had been dead.

We couldn't ask Legs for an alibi. There was one curious thing that I've forgotten to mention. When we entered the room the windows were all open despite the weather. Some snow had drifted in the window and it melted as we talked."

"Wait a minuate," said Beef. "Sue, what are you grinning about?"

"Why," said Sue, "because I know who the Lispering Man was!"

"Sometimes," muttered Beef, "you make me feel like an idiot. I have all the information you have, but I don't see how you know *that*, unless you read about it in the papers at the time!"

Sue shook her head no. "I figured it out the same Nick must have. What happened Nick? How long had the man been dead?"

"As close as the medical examiner could tell," said Nick, "the man was killed while Legs was in my office talking to me. The death occurred, according to the M.E., about a half an hour before Legs and I entered the room."

"Well," said Nick, "you should have seen Clancy's face when we got that little piece of news. He was very unhappy. He said, 'How do you like that! Now where do we stand? Is the dead man the Lispering Man or is his killer the Lisper? And if he is where do we go to look for him! He turned to Legs and asked him if he knew any way for us to find the Lisper. Legs just shook his head kind of desolately and said he figured that the Lispering Man had killed the other man, thinking it was Legs. You could see from his face that he expected Lisper to come back and rectify his error."

"The case was at a standstill for a day or so, the newspapers really made a three day wonder out of it. They ran screaming headlines asking where the Lisper was. No one with any kind of a speech defect was safe. Cops arrested lispers, stutterers and stammerers right and left. It was no good. Legs couldn't identify any of them."

Sue interrupted, "And all the while the Lisper was with you!"

Nick nodded. "Yep, and did I feel like a dope when it finally dawned on me who he was! Clancy, Legs and the fingerprint man were all up at Legs' apartment going over the place when the phone rang. I started

to pick it up. Legs asked if he could answer it. Since it was his apartment I couldn't say no. He picked up the phone, said hello and then went white. I grabbed the phone but the line was dead.

"Legs said, 'It was him again!' He said, 'You are practically dead right now!'"

"Clancy scratched his head and said, 'Not that I think your death will be much loss, still the guy has a lot of nerve threatening you with Carter and me right alongside of you!'"

Sue was grinning again and Beef was doing a slow burn as Nick continued, "I asked Legs if he was sure it was the same man and he nodded yes. He said that he could recognize the lisp any where!"

"That really set off the fire-works. I reached slowly into my pocket for my gun."

The members of the Inner Circle were sitting on the edge of their seats by now.

Nick went on, "I didn't think he noticed it but he did. As I pulled my gun out he leaped for a big overstuffed chair. His hand burrowed under the pillow and he came out with a gun! He'd left it hidden just in case.

"As he whirled towards me I fired. My first shot went wild. He raised his gun to cover all three of us, Clancy, the fingerprint man and myself. He said, 'So you figured out the snow!'"

"I nodded yes and he fired. Clancy who had his hands behind him grabbed an ashtray off the table. He flung the ashtray full in Legs' face. Luckily for me the flying ashes went into Legs' eyes and blinded him for a moment. His shot missed me and before he could fire again all three of us were on him.

"Clancy asked about the snow. I told him that it was a partial giveaway. Legs had killed the man and then left the window open. This cooled the room off quickly and also cooled off the dead man's body! This meant that the medical examiner could only guess at the time of the death, for temperature has a lot to do with rigor mortis. The M.E.'s guess as to the time of the killing supplied Legs with an alibi."

Beef spluttered, "But what about the Lispering Man! Who was he?"

"You answer that, Sue." Said Nick.

"Why obviously," said Sue, "the Lispering Man wasn't! Or he was Legs, depending on how you look at it!"

"Exactly," said Nick. "There was no Lispering Man! Legs killed the man, opened his window and ran over to see me and fill me up with his cock and bull story about the Lisper! I should have spotted it and arrested him right then and there!"

Beef asked querulously, "But how could you tell that he was lying? How did Sue know?"



Nick smiled, "Sue saw what I didn't, till the phone rang in Legs' apartment. It was really just a wrong number! Legs pretended it was the death message for him."

Beef said, "I still don't get it!"

Sue said impatiently, "Oh, Beef, use your head!"

Nick smiled and said, "No, Beef, don't use your head; use your lisper. Let me hear you lisp on the words . . . 'You are through. To night you die' . . . or 'You are practically dead now'!"

Beef looked a little stunned then said, "You can't lisp those! There aren't any sounds!"

Nick was getting into his hat and coat.

"That's right," he said, "Legs didn't think of that and because of that trifling error he died early one morning of a broken neck!"



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TO TERRIFY YOU!!

TO THRILL YOU!!!

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HE'S Back!

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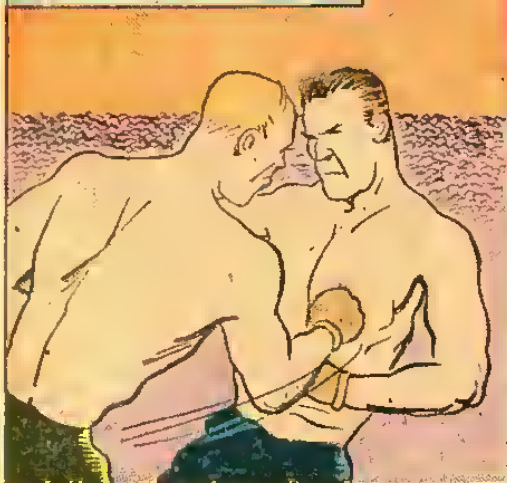
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THE HOT STOVE LEAGUE

WITH THORNTON FISHER

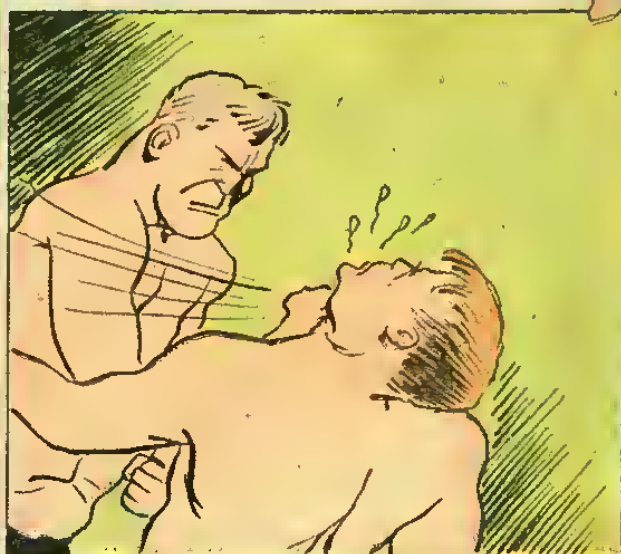
THIS WILL BE THE PUNCH-

ASKING HIS FRIEND JACK DEMPSEY TO SHOW HIM THE PUNCH WITH WHICH HE EXPECTED TO FINISH CARPENTER, YOUR NARRATOR WAS ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED OUT BY JACK-JUNE 18, 1921 THE ONLY NEWSPAPERMAN EVER KNOCKED OUT BY DEMPSEY-



THE FIRST OUTSIDE OR OPEN AIR ARENA WAS BUILT AT CARSON CITY, NEVADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE CORBETT-FITZSIMMONS HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP CONTEST- MARCH 17, 1897- FITZ WON-

THE FIRST WOMAN FIGHTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE RING WAS ELIZABETH WILKINSON OF CLERKENWELL, ENG.-1722



THE FIRST FOREIGN PUGILIST TO COME TO AMERICA TO FIGHT WAS SIMON BURKE WHO HAILED FROM ENGLAND- HE FOUGHT SAM O'ROURKE AT NEW ORLEANS, LA, MAY 6, 1836- O'ROURKE WON-

HOT STOVE LEAGUE
(CONTINUED)

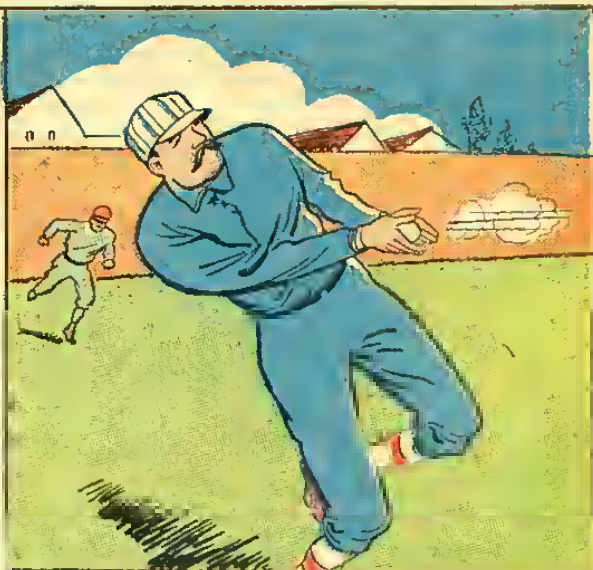
I WANT THIS TO BE A HIT-AND-RUN SHOW TODAY, YOU UNDERSTAND! HIT AT EVERYTHING!!



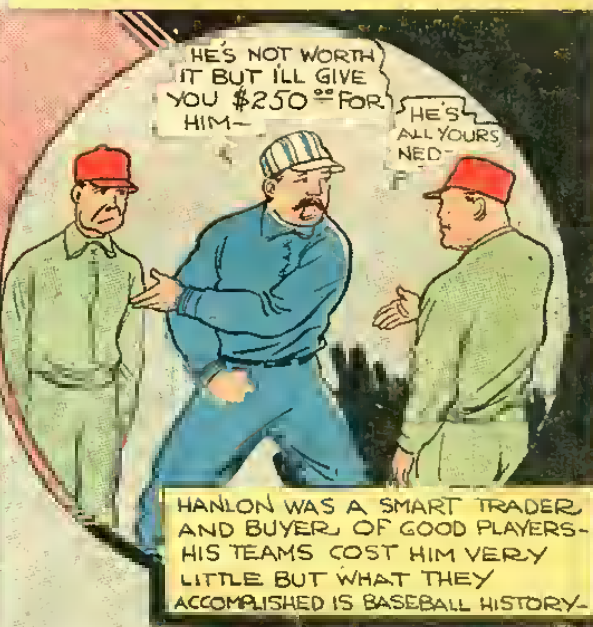
A MANAGER MUST BE A REAL LEADER OF HIS MEN—HE MUST KNOW HOW TO DISCOVER TALENT—HE MUST KNOW HOW TO TEACH AND DEVELOP PLAYERS—HE MUST IMPRESS HIS MEN THAT HE KNOWS MORE ABOUT THE GAME THAN THEY DO—HE MUST HANDLE EACH PLAYER DIFFERENTLY AND BUILD A TEAM—HE MUST DEVISE MEANS OF BEATING OPPOSITION—HE MUST BE THE ABSOLUTE BOSS—NED HANLON HAD IT ALL—



IN 1899 HANLON WENT TO BROOKLYN—THE BROOKLYN CLUB WAS SOON KNOWN AS "HANLON'S SUPERBAS"—HE SEIZED TWO SUCCESSIVE PENNANTS, MAKING A RECORD OF FIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TWO RUNNERS-UP IN SEVEN YEARS—BROOKLYN FANS HAVE NEVER FORGOT HIM—



HE PLAYED CENTERFIELD AND WAS CAPTAIN OF THE PENNANT-WINNING DETROIT CLUB IN 1887 WHEN DETROIT WAS THE OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL OUTFIT OF THE COUNTRY—HANLON MADE IT THAT—



HE'S NOT WORTH IT BUT I'LL GIVE YOU \$250⁰⁰ FOR HIM—

HE'S ALL YOURS NED—

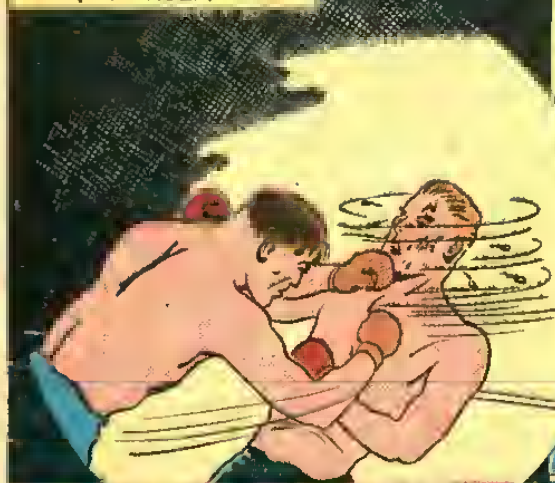
HANLON WAS A SMART TRADER AND BUYER OF GOOD PLAYERS—HIS TEAMS COST HIM VERY LITTLE BUT WHAT THEY ACCOMPLISHED IS BASEBALL HISTORY—



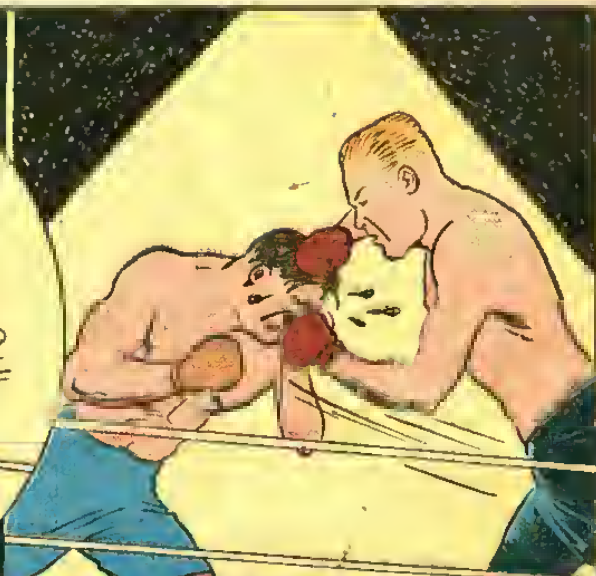
VOTED INTO THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AT COOPERSTOWN, N.Y.

AS A PLAYER, HANLON BATTED .300 BUT TWICE—HIS LIFETIME NATIONAL LEAGUE AVERAGE WAS ONLY .266—HOWEVER, HE WAS A MARVELOUS BASE RUNNER AND BASE THIEF—69 STEALS FOR DETROIT IN 1887—HANLON DIED APRIL 14, 1937, AT THE AGE OF 79—

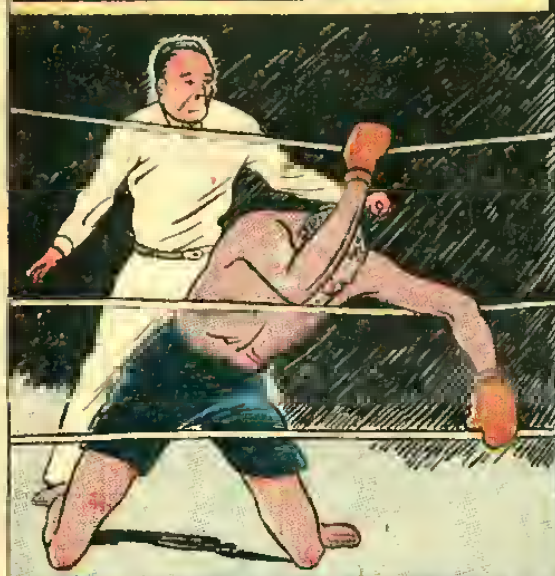
HOT STOVE LEAGUE (CONTINUED)



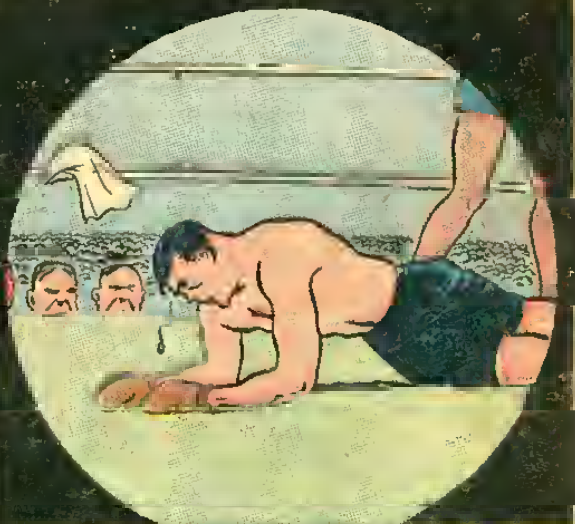
BRAINS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AS IMPORTANT IN SPORTS AS THEY HAVE IN BUSINESS—WHEN GENE TUNNEY WAS LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION HE WAS CHALLENGED BY HARRY GREB, THE "PITTSBURGH WINDMILL"—THE BATTLE OCCURRED MAY 24, 1922—(N.Y. CITY) TUNNEY, THE SKILLED BOXER, WAS BATTERED SILLY BY GREB WHO KNEW NOTHING ABOUT BOXING EXCEPT TO SLUG FROM EVERY ANGLE—AT THE END OF THE 15-ROUND CONTEST GENE WAS BLOODY AND BEATEN, LOSING HIS TITLE—BUT——



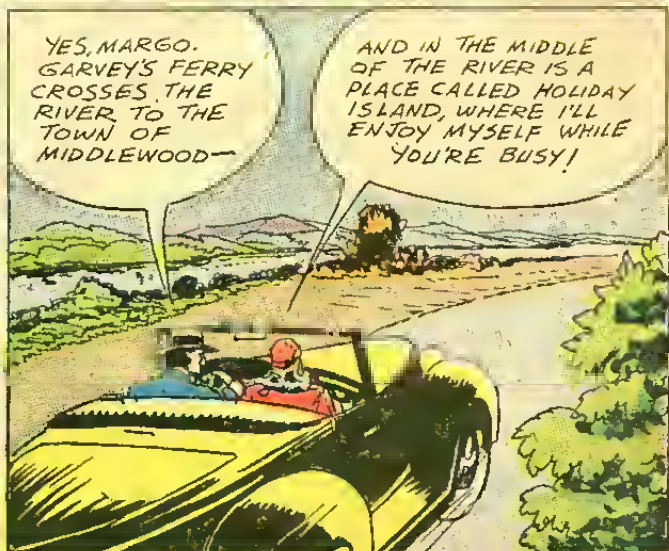
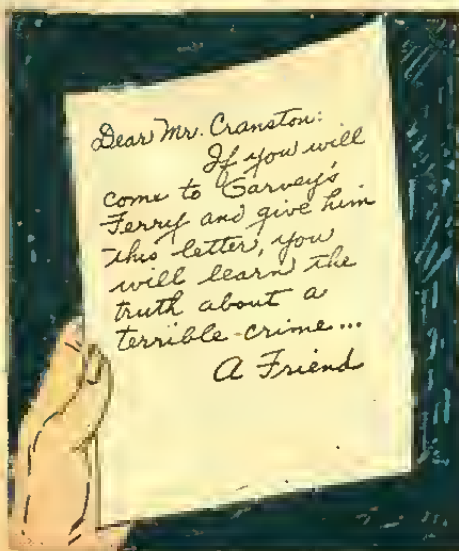
GENE USED HIS BRAINS—HE LEARNED WHY HE LOST—HE DECIDED TO DISCARD HIS FANCY BOXING WHEN HE MET GREB AGAIN AND USE GREB'S TACTICS—SLUG—THE 2ND FIGHT TOOK PLACE IN N.Y. CITY FEB. 23, 1923—THOUGH GREB WAS ON HIS FEET AT THE END OF THE CONTEST HE RECEIVED AN ARTISTIC PASTING, LOSING HIS TITLE TO TUNNEY—DEC. 10, 1923 THEY MET A 3RD TIME AND TUNNEY WON—MARCH 27, 1925, THEY FOUGHT A 10-ROUND NO-DECISION CONTEST—TUNNEY'S BRAINS DID IT——

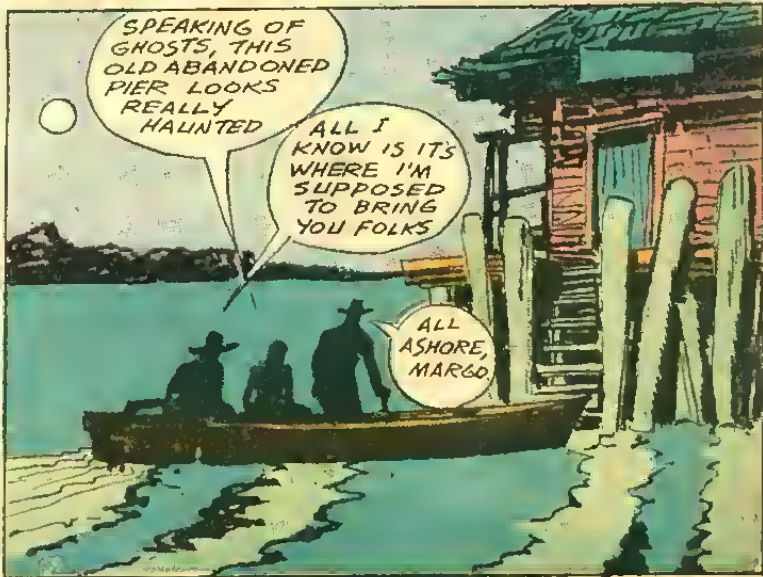
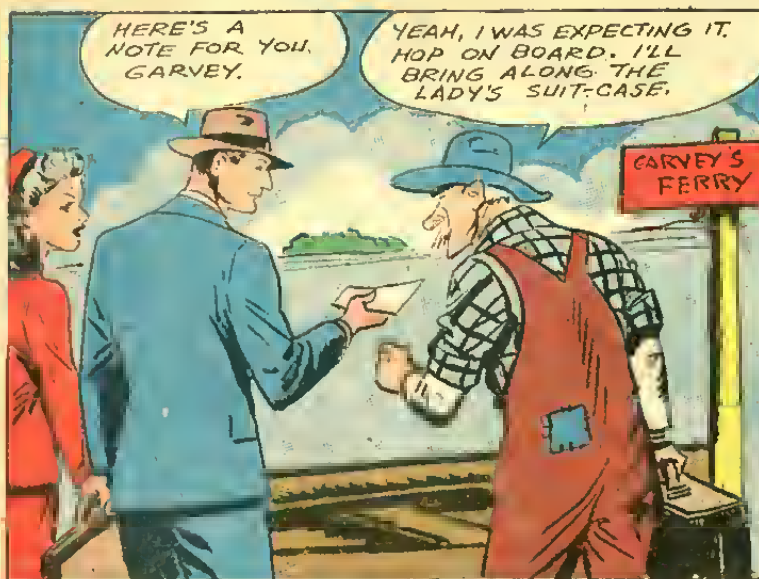


ON THE NEVER-TO-BE-FORGOTTEN NIGHT OF JUNE 19, 1936, AT THE YANKEE STADIUM, N.Y. CITY, MAX SCHMELING IN A SENSATIONAL FIGHT KNOCKED OUT JOE LOUIS (NOT THEN CHAMPION) IN THE 12TH ROUND WITH A CONSTANT BOMBARDMENT OF MURDEROUS RIGHTS—BUT——



JOE STUDIED THE CAUSE OF HIS STINGING DISASTER—HE USED HIS HEAD—TWO YEARS LATER ALMOST TO THE DAY—JUNE 22, 1938, WHEN HE WAS CHAMPION, JOE MET THE GERMAN AGAIN—HE WATCHED SCHMELING'S RIGHT—IN 2 MINUTES, 4 SECONDS OF THE FIRST ROUND HE SMASHED SCHMELING INTO SUCH HELPLESSNESS THAT MAX'S SECONDS TOSSED IN A TOWEL TO SAVE HIM—LOUIS USED HIS BRAINS—







WHO WILL WE MEET HERE? THE MAN WHO SENT THE MYSTERY NOTE?

PROBABLY. THE CRIME HE MENTIONS MAY BE THAT ISLAND MURDER GARVEY TOLD US ABOUT.



DIDN'T THEY EVER CATCH JEFF KELSEY?

NO. HE FLED BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVED



THAT MUST BE THE MAN WHO SENT YOU THE NOTE! HE'S ASLEEP!

I'LL STEP OVER AND WAKE HIM UP.



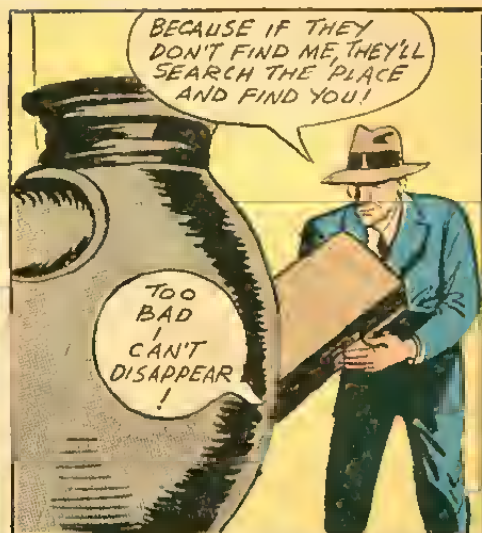
THAT MAN ISN'T ASLEEP, LAMONT! HE... HE'S...

YES, MARGO. HE'S DEAD!



DO YOU THINK SOMEBODY MURDERED HIM?

WAIT, MARGO. I HEAR FOOTSTEPS OUTSIDE THIS PLACE!



AT HEADQUARTERS, CRANSTON FAKES AN EXPLANATION....

MY NAME IS ALGERNON SMITHERS. I INVESTIGATE FALSE LIFE INSURANCE CLAIMS. I RECEIVED A TIP-OFF THAT BODIES WERE BEING STOLEN FROM YOUR LOCAL MORGUE.

AND YOU THINK THAT BODY WAS ONE OF THEM?



MEANWHILE-

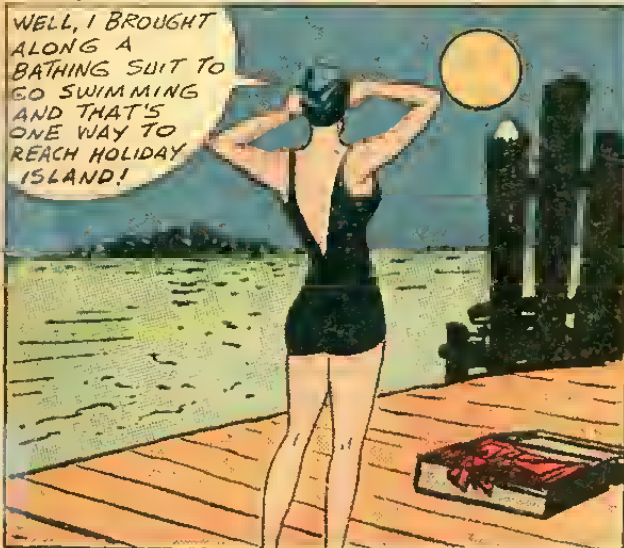
NOW TO GET
OUT OF THIS
AND HAVE A
LOOK AROUND!



GARVEY'S BOAT
STOPPING AT
HOLIDAY ISLAND!
THERE'S SOME-
THING PHONEY
ABOUT THAT!



WELL, I BROUGHT
ALONG A
BATHING SUIT TO
GO SWIMMING
AND THAT'S
ONE WAY TO
REACH HOLIDAY
ISLAND!



HEY,
I WANT TO
TALK TO THAT
FELLOW SMITHERS!
THERE'S SOME-
THING TO HIS
STORY!

TRY TO
FIND HIM
FIRST, SERGEANT!
WHEN WE LOOKED
IN HERE HE
WAS GONE!

ALL HE LEFT
WAS THIS
EMPTY BRIEF
CASE!



WHAT'S THAT, JOE?
YOU SAY A BODY
IS MISSING AT THE
MORGUE? WELL,
I'LL -



SOUNDS AS
THOUGH I OUGHT
TO STAY AROUND
AND HEAR THE
DETAILS!





I'M TAKING OVER THIS SCOW, GARVEY, AND WE'RE GOING TO THE ISLAND WHERE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO TAKE A MAN NAMED CRANSTON!

WHO-WHQ-WHERE-WHAT ARE YOU? AND HOW--- HOW DO YOU KNOW?

A SIMPLE DEDUCTION, GARVEY. THE ONLY REASON A BOAT WAS NEEDED WOULD BE TO BRING SOME ONE TO AN ISLAND. SOMEBODY BRIBED YOU TO TAKE CRANSTON TO THE STEAMBOAT PIER INSTEAD!

YOU-- YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!



AND MY NEXT DEDUCTION IS THAT YOU HELPED THAT SAME SOMEBODY STEAL A BODY FROM THE MORGUE AND PLANT IT ON THE PIER TO GET CRANSTON INTO TROUBLE!

I'LL TELL ALL!

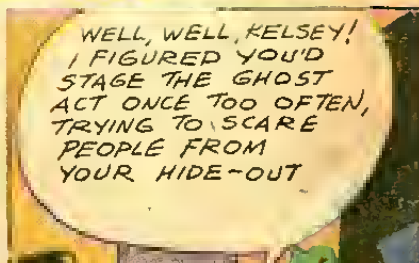
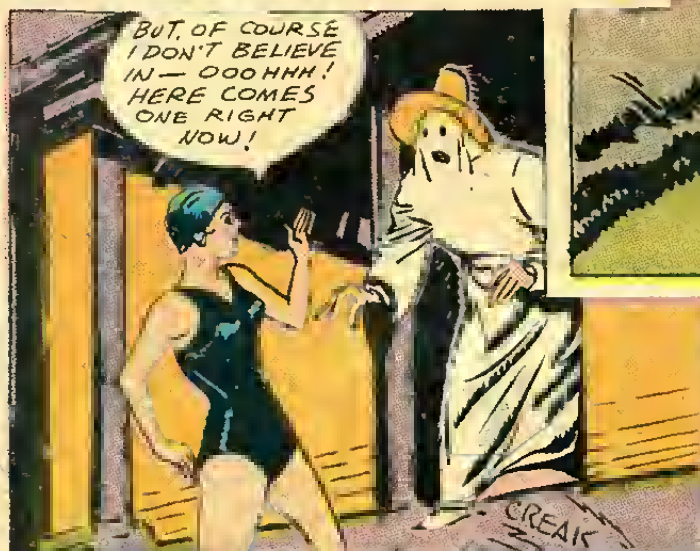


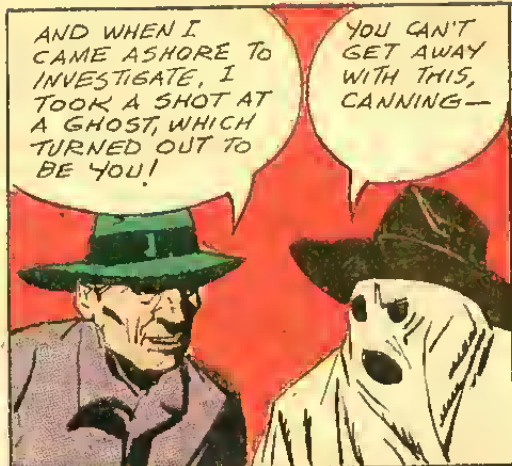
IT WAS CLEM CANNING REALLY MURDERED HARBELOW. I KNEW IT, BUT CLEM THREATENED TO KILL ME IF I TOLD. FRAMING CRANSTON WAS CLEM'S IDEA, AND HE'S ON THE ISLAND NOW, HOPING TO FIX JEFF FOR KEEPS!

JEFF KELSEY IS BACK ON THE ISLAND, HOPING TO PROVE HE DIDN'T MURDER HARBELOW. IT WAS JEFF SENT THAT NOTE TO CRANSTON, THINKING HE COULD HELP

GOOD. WE'LL TURN THE KEEPS THE OTHER WAY









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